

Dr. A. Strand, I believe) I learnt that the problem had been solved as long ago as 1926 by Stolz, who demonstrated that the so-called var. *pilifera* was actually the female of *N. rufipes*—agreeing, of course, with the conclusion arrived at by Kevan and myself. But Stolz's finding not having been noticed in our literature, as far as I am aware, other coleopterists in this country may well have been puzzled as I was.

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63 Blackheath Park, London, S.E.3. 4.vii.69.

Collecting in Spain, 1969

By Dr. R. G. AINLEY.

From May 23rd to June 2nd, 1969, I stayed in Madrid, and was able to collect Lepidoptera in several localities in the district. The season was a late one, due to cold weather in the weeks preceding my arrival. During my stay the weather was consistently fine and sunny, though not really hot until May 30th. Furthermore, when the weather was hot in Madrid, there was often a gentle but cool breeze in the foothills of the mountains where I did most collecting. This certainly reduced the numbers of insects on the wing, as shown by their increase on occasions when the breeze abated.

On the morning of May 23rd I was pleased to see a few fresh specimens of *Iphiclides podalirius* L. (spp. *feisthameli* Dup.) and *Pararge aegeria* L. (form *aegeria*) flying in suburban gardens in Madrid. In the afternoon I drove to the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama north-west of the city. The sky was overcast much of the time, but on scrubland with many flowers we found a fair number of butterflies. *Zerynthia rumina* L. was common, but most specimens were worn. Fritillaries were much in evidence, especially *Melitaea phoebe* Schiff., and also *M. cinxia* L., *Mellicta athalia* Rott. and a few *Euphydryas aurinia* Rott. (the rust-

coloured form *iberica*). Other species found were *Dira megera* L., *Coenonympha pamphilus* L. (typical form, not *lyllus*), *Vanessa cardui* L., *Aricia cramera* Esch., *Colias croceus* Fourc. and *Colias hyale* L.

On the morning of May 26th I returned to the same locality but a cool breeze was blowing and very few butterflies were seen, so early in the afternoon I drove on along a narrow mountain road towards the tiny village of Mataelpino (1071 m.) on the southern foothills of La Maliciosa. The weather became hotter and more Lepidoptera were seen, especially in the mountain pastures where short grass and many flowers were growing. Species not found on May 23rd were *Dira maera* L., *Agapetes ines* Hffsgg., *Issoria lathonia* L., *Papilio machaon* L. (resembling the British subspecies in appearance, rather than the specimens I have taken in the south of France), *Euchloe tagis* Hbn. and *Anthocaris euphenoides* Stdgr, this last flying in small numbers, and far from easy to take with the net, especially on a boulder-strewn hillside.

On May 27th I drove to the Sierra de Gredos, a wild and beautiful range of mountains about 200 Km. west of Madrid, where I stayed for two nights at the Parador de Gredos, a comfortable State-run hostel and an ideal centre for mountain walking. The next morning, climbing in the range south of the Parador, the weather was fine and sunny, but cool, and the only species seen was the moth *Euclidimera mi* Clerk., flying in hundreds around the yellow broom bushes. In the early afternoon a solitary *Aglais urticae* L. was seen flying over the snow near the summit. Not until 4 p.m., when I had returned to a lower level and the breeze had dropped, were butterflies seen in appreciable numbers. In marshy meadows beside a small river I saw about ten *Anthocaris euphenoides* Stdgr, and took four, becoming spattered with wet mud in the process. Flying with *euphenoides* were a few *Euchloe tagis* Hbn. and *Pieris napi* L.

Driving from Gredos back to Madrid on the 29th the weather was mostly dull, but on the roadside near Toledo, during a sunny interval, there were a few *Pontia daplidice* L., *Agapetes ines* Hffsgg. and early *Maniola jurtina* L. One notable capture here was a perfect male *Pandorina pandora* D & S. (= *Argynnis pandora* Schiff., = *Argynnis major* Cr. etc. Any number can play).

On May 30th I returned to Mataelpino. The same species were found as on the 26th, but in greater numbers. In addition I took my first Spanish "blue", solitary specimen of *Philotes baton* Bergstr., and a few *Iphioides podalirius* L. and *Pontia daplidice* L.

June 1st was extremely hot. I spent the afternoon collecting in olive groves near Chinchón, south-east of Madrid. Large numbers were on the wing, one of the commonest species in this locality being *Lysandra bellargus* Rott., which I had not seen elsewhere. Also very common were *Agapetes ines* Hffsgg., the ubiquitous *Melitaea phoebe* Schiff., and *Anthocaris euphenoides* Stdgr. Worn specimens of *Zerynthia rumina* L. were flying in moderate numbers, along with *Euchloe tagis* Hbn., *Polyommatus icarus* Rott. and *Pontia daplidice* L.

That evening in Madrid I was sitting in the garden, net in one hand, brandy in the other, waiting for *podalirius*, when my host pointed out some larvae crawling up the side of the house. These were obviously a large Nymphalid, though I did not recognise the species. An exhaustive search of the outside of the house produced about ten larvae and a

pupa. Subsequently, after a minor publicity campaign and a hint of bribery, the neighbours' children brought half a dozen of the same larvae, most of which suspended themselves for pupation in the next few days. Unfortunately the majority harboured parasites, and only four live pupae survived. On June 17th the first emerged. It was, of course, *Nymphalis polychloros* L., a species I had never before seen alive at any stage of its life-history.

The following list of species seen or taken omits *Hesperiidae* and moths. The numbers refer to the localities given in the Key. I wish to record my thanks to Mr. H. G. Allcard, of Sale, for helping to identify some of the species.

PAPILIONIDAE

- Papilio machaon* L. (3)
Iphiclides podalirius L. (spp. *feisthameli* Dup.) (2)
Zerynthia rumina L. (3, 6)

PIERIDAE

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Pieris brassicae</i> L. (1) | <i>Euchloe tagis</i> Hbn. (3, 4, 5, 6) |
| <i>P. rapae</i> L. (1) | <i>Anthocaris cardamines</i> L. (1) |
| <i>P. napi</i> L. (1) | <i>A. euphenoides</i> Stdgr. (3, 4, 6) |
| <i>Aporia crataegi</i> L. (6) | <i>Colias hyale</i> L. (1) |
| <i>Pontia daplidice</i> L. (3, 5, 6) | <i>C. croceus</i> Fourc. (1) |

NYMPHALIDAE

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Vanessa atalanta</i> L. (1) | <i>Mellicta athalia</i> Rott. (3, 6) |
| <i>V. cardui</i> L. (1) | <i>Melitaea cinxia</i> L. (3, 6) |
| <i>Aglais urticae</i> L. (1) | <i>M. phoebe</i> Schiff. (3, 5, 6) |
| <i>Nymphalis polychloros</i> L. (2) | <i>Pandoriana pandora</i> D & S (5) |
| <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> Rott. (3) | <i>Issoria lathonia</i> L. (3, 5, 6) |

SATYRIDAE

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Parage aegeria</i> (form <i>aegeria</i>) (2) | <i>Maniola jurtina</i> L. (5) |
| <i>Dira megera</i> L. (1) | <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i> L. (1) |
| <i>Agaptes ines</i> Hffsgg. (3, 5, 6) | |

LYCAENIDAE

- Heodes tityrus* Poda. (= *Lycaena dorilis* Hufn.) (3)
Lycaena phlaeas L. (3, 4, 6)
Philotes baton Bergstr. (3)
Aricia cramera Esch. (3)
Polyommatus icarus Rott. (2, 3, 6)
Lysandra bellargus Rott. (6)

KEY

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| 1. Found in all localities visited. | 4. Sierra de Gredos. |
| 2. Madrid. | 5. Toledo. |
| 3. Sierra de Guadarrama. | 6. Chinchón. |

PARASITISM AND DISEASE IN CAENOPHILA SUBROSEA STEPHENS (ROSY MARSH MOTH).—In my note on this species (antea 179) I much regret that I wrote by mistake that the larvae were taken in Carnarvonshire. The locality is in fact in Cardiganshire. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT, St. Teresa, Hardcourts Close, West Wickham, Kent.